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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1918.

二月九日英港

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GERMANS PREPARE FOR A STAND.

A BIG PITCHED BATTLE EXPECTED.

FRENCH STILL PROGRESSING NORTH OF THE SOMME.

London, September 8.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—On the southern portion of the battlefront we have now entered the area of our defensive systems constructed prior to the German March offensive. The enemy is offering increased resistance among these prepared defences, and sharp fighting has occurred to-day at a number of points.

We gained ground in the direction of Vermand, Hebescourt and Epehy, and repulsed local attacks south-west of Ploegsteert and east of Wulverghem.

The British have taken prisoner 19,000 since the beginning of September.

Germans to Attempt a Stand.

London, September 9.

To-day's news leaves no doubt that the German Command has finally decided to turn upon its pursuers or at least to settle down on what remains of the Hindenburg Line and challenge the Allies to eject them.

The armies are now taking up positions for a pitched battle on an unprecedented scale. German strategy seems identical to that followed after the retreat from the Marne in 1914, but French experts are of opinion that the tactics successful then are unlikely to succeed now in view of the vastly-increased Allied resources and the fact that Marshal Foch still retains the initiative and has already breached the line twice.

Violent Fighting on French Front.

London, September 9.

A French communiqué says:—To-day we further progressed north of the Somme and carried Vaux, Flauquier, Happencourt and Hamel.

South of the Somme, the enemy resistance was most stubborn and violent fighting raged north and east of St. Simon.

The Germans attacked and partly re-took Arvesnes, of which, as a result of a desperate encounter, we regained the whole, taking a hundred prisoners.

We captured Armentières, north-east of St. Simon and gained ground on both sides of the Oise east of Fargniers on the outskirts of La Fere and West of Servais.

French Engineers' Tenacity.

London, September 9.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, writing on Sunday, says:—The hardest fighting by French troops during the past week has been done by General Mangin's Army among the hills and woods before the Hindenburg Line. The Germans unquestionably decided and prepared to stand in the region of Quincy-Basse and Pont St. Marc, where they had the advantage of view. The French, after a memorable struggle, crossed the canal of the Ailette at Coucy le Ville. The canal is eighteen yards wide and seven feet deep. The Boche, with scores of machine-guns, lined the east bank to the water edge. French engineers actually bridged the canal under showers of grenades and murderous point-blank machine-gunning, after which the engineers were first across to get at grips with the machine-guns. Across the water lay woods in which the Germans had installed machine-guns behind every tree. The oldest veterans are emphatic that the fighting here and the volume of fire surpassed everything in the whole campaign. The enemy machine-guns literally fought to the death. For five days this continued unceasingly. A single Gascon Division, advancing foot by foot not more than a hundred yards daily, engaged five German Divisions and on the sixth day, with the help of artillery, the French won through to the Hindenburg positions, freeing Coucy le Chateau, which is looking to-day like a stone quarry.

German Artillery Revives.

Paris, September 9.

On almost the whole battle-front the enemy artillery is thundering as it has not done for a long time, indicating that the Germans are preparing to stand. General Mangin's advance to the approaches of Servais threatens to cut the St. Gobain-La Fere Road. The enemy is feverishly reinforcing the defences before Laon, preparing for a prolonged halt in the vast subterranean cavities of the Monceau plateau. The whole country north of the Ailette and the environs of the railway from Soissons to Laon and north of Creonne are gorging with guns and howitzers.

WARNING AGAINST PACIFIST TWADDLE.

Cardinal Bourne Speaks Out.

London, September 9.

Cardinal Bourne, dedicating a war shrine at Kensington, emphatically warned his hearers against pacifism. He said:—“Be not misled by some of the pernicious things occasionally said and written about peace. Do not be carried away by any formulae such as ‘No indemnities and no annexations’ because justice may demand indemnities and annexations. Peace without justice will be a peace which will not last and not be worth having.”

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

British Officials Threatened with Death.

Stockholm, September 8.

The newspaper *Sociale Dagblad* says that reports from Helsingfors state that thirty-six Britishers holding official positions have been arrested and threatened with death if M. Lenin dies.

THE SIBERIAN CAMPAIGN.

White Guards and Cossacks Intervene.

London, September 9.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokyo, writing on August 31, says it is now certain that White Guards and Cossacks under General Alexeiev have opened hostilities in Siberia, attacking the

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GERMANY'S DECLINING MORALE.

Another Effort to Stay the Rot.

Amsterdam, September 9.

Another instance of the authorities' endeavours to stay the present moral panic in Germany is to be seen in a lecture in Berlin by General Freytag Loringhoven, Deputy Chief of the General Staff, who admitted that “we expected too much from unrestricted submarine and again at the beginning of the spring offensive.” He enjoins the people to bear up against the incalculable accidents of war and said the fact that the enemy is unable to dispose of Germany and had to get more Allies was in itself the greatest tribute imaginable to Germany.

A GENERAL DROWNED.

London, September 9.

General E. W. Cox has been drowned in France.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN FRANCE.

More Progress by the Allies.

London, Sept. 8.

Reuter learns that progress has been good during the past twenty-four hours. The line runs from Havrincourt Wood, thence to Hencourt, Villersavau, Roisel, Berne, Poenilly, Villers-les-Vaux, Vaux, the western outskirts of Havrincourt and St. Simon, thence along the canal to Tergnier. The most important event is the crossing of the Crozat Canal at St. Simon as the waterway was a suitable bastion for this part of the Hindenburg line.

As the bastion is passed it can now be turned either to north-east or south-east. The capture of Roisel is important because it is the junction of two lines, namely to Cambrai and St. Quentin. We possess the whole of Havrincourt Wood except the north-east spur. Between the Oise and the Ailette the French have reached the Alberich line, a continuation of the Hindenburg line. The enemy has now engaged 107 divisions since 8th August, of whom three were dismounted cavalry. Thirty-two divisions were engaged twice and three engaged thrice. We have counted roughly 142 divisions north and south of the Somme representing approximately six thousand rifles to a division. Thus there are one-and-a-quarter million between Switzerland and the sea. Germany's full strength is probably less than two and a half millions on the whole front. Their Eastern forces have been combed out and it is believed there will not be any fresh divisions from the East for the Western Front, either German or Russian.

Hustling the Germans.

London, Sept. 8.

Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, writing on Sunday, says: Our troops continue to hustle the German retirement of which the Alpine Corps prisoners supply confirmation relating to details of the consequent confusion. Hostile artillery mostly comes from extreme ranges. On the Nieupe front a strong enemy attack was forced back by our outposts.

The latest Boche dodge is to use ferocious dogs with sentries and patrols.

A captured order pays a tribute to the taciturnity of British prisoners, especially those of the London regiments, who give admittedly clever and evasive answers.

French Progress.

London, Sept. 8.

A French communiqué states: North of the Oise we captured Meunieres and reached the banks of the Et. Quentin Canal. South of the Oise we progressed to the outskirts of Servais. In the region of Laffaux, north of Celles-sur-Aisne we maintained our positions, despite counter-attacks.

Aviation Report.

London, Sept. 8.

Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says: Clouds and rainstorms hindered our air work on the 7th. We destroyed eight hostile machines. Three British are missing. We dropped thirteen tons of bombs. All our night bombers returned.

A German Report.

London, Sept. 8.

A wireless German official message says: Everywhere on the battle-front we are in our new positions. South of the Peronne-Cambrai road the enemy attempted to approach them. Our rearguards yielded, after fighting, to a numerically superior enemy and repulsed violent attacks westward of Gouzeaucourt, Epehy and Templeux. Southward of the Ailette the enemy reached our line eastward of Vauxsillon.

RED TERROR IN RUSSIA.

Amsterdam, Sept. 8.

The “Tageszeitung’s” Moscow correspondent writes: Neutral Governments have jointly threatened to expel all Russian Bolsheviks if the Soviet Government does not abandon political terrorism. They specially protest against the wholesale execution of officers and civilians.

The “Kreuzzeitung’s” Petrograd correspondent says the peasants’ revolt at Jamburte is serious. The insurgents are marching to Petrograd and have captured railway stations on the Jamburg-Gatchina line.

A message from Moscow says that red terror continues. Members of the Social revolutionaries have been arrested almost everywhere. The bourgeois ex-officers have been taken as hostages and many shot, including a bishop.

The “Lokal Anzeiger” officially learns that the Russian massacrers are mostly exaggerated. Nevertheless it adds that five hundred were shot during a rising in Petrograd, besides others in connection with the recent assassinations.

COTTON MARKET SENSATION.

New York, Sept. 8.

The cotton market is almost dismayed by an announcement that the War Industries Board has planned the stabilization of cotton prices. Extreme losses of from 20 to 25 points were recorded under tremendous selling when

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

AVIATION ON ITALIAN FRONT.

London, Sept. 8.

A British Italian official message says: Since Aug. 25 we destroyed eight enemy aircraft. One British machine is missing.

RED CROSS IN SIBERIA.

Question of a British Unit.

An important meeting of the medical men of Shanghai was held on the 5th inst. in the offices of Drs. Marshall, Marsh, Billinghurst & Murray on the subject of a British Red Cross Unit for Siberia. Presiding over the meeting Dr. Marsh said:

You are familiar with the recent suggestions in the *China Daily News*, that a British Red Cross Unit for Siberia should be formed and maintained by the Shanghai British community. The question whether such a unit is needed has been asked of the P.M.O. with the British Forces at Vladivostok by the local honorary treasurer of the British Red Cross Society. The P.M.O. has also been asked to indicate the size of the unit required and if it would be more useful as a stationary hospital at a base, such as Vladivostok, or as a mobile unit nearer the front. No reply to these inquiries has been received up to the present.

I understand the British contingent in Siberia in the immediate future will total several thousands of troops—mostly Canadians. It is not anticipated that the British forces will be at any time large. Against the Allied forces is an enemy variously estimated at any number between 35,000 and 150,000. These figures show that the whole campaign from the point of view of the number of troops engaged, is a comparatively minor operation. Still we have the experience of German East Africa to show that even such a campaign can be a very arduous and sickly one.

The advantage of the voluntary side element for nursing and minor operations. Still we have the experience of German East Africa to show that even such a campaign can be a very arduous and sickly one. The whole campaign from the point of view of the number of troops engaged, is a comparatively minor operation. Still we have the experience of German East Africa to show that even such a campaign can be a very arduous and sickly one. The whole campaign from the point of view of the number of troops engaged, is a comparatively minor operation. Still we have the experience of German East Africa to show that even such a campaign can be a very arduous and sickly one.

The advantage to the patients themselves from a personal point of view of comfort and absence from the environment of war would be very great indeed as is the common experience in other parts of the world where our wounded require careful treatment. In combination with the latter scheme it might be possible to send a small unit of one or more medical men and several nurses from Shanghai to work in Siberia, either independently or in conjunction with some British unit from another part of China.

Speaking for my firm, the scheme for running a hospital or beds in Shanghai for cases sent from Siberia seems the most practical way we could give our assistance in our present state of short-handedness. This in combination with sharing the work of any medical man who could arrange temporarily to hand over his work to others while he served with a distant unit is about the limit of service possible to most of the British firms in Shanghai. In order to relieve the immediate necessities of the people there in every way for which an opportunity may open. In the same announcement it is stated that “it is the hope and expectation of the Government of the U. S. that the government with which it is associated will, wherever necessary, tender their services in the execution of these military and economic plans.”

On August 20 the Japanese Government decided to extend its scheme of “economic relief” in Siberia. A special commission composed of official and unofficial experts was organised for the purpose of organising Japanese sympathy into action.

These pronouncements give a special aspect to the Red Cross work of the American and Japanese Governments and mean special resources for the work. How much or if any of this extended programme is contemplated by our Government we do not know. We can learn something from the *N.Y. Daily News* of August 26 and September 1 of the activities of the American Red Cross.

The meeting also decided that it was advisable to wait for the communication from the Principal Medical Officer in charge of H. M. Forces in Vladivostok before making any final arrangements.

The meeting also decided that the industry may never become anything like a sufficient one, the production of this paper at a time like the present is of distinct utility.

IMPRESSIONS OF JAPAN.

People “Rolling in Money.”

Another sojourner in Japan from the antipodes has been giving his impressions of conditions in this country. He is Mr. John Myers of New Zealand and it is in the *Wellington Evening Post* that his impressions appear.

The most outstanding of these are that Japanese business people (he says nothing about the workers)—are rolling in money made in the war and that hotel accommodation is very dear—from Y10 to Y20 a day and not always obtainable owing to the large number of Russians and Americans travelling through the country. Mr. Myers was in Japan three months, during which time he says, freight rates advanced from 130a. to 300a. per ton, which meant that in some instances the freight charge alone was equivalent to four times the value of the goods shipped.

He says nothing as to the benefit to the Allies of having to pay four times the value of the goods shipped to them, but it is satisfactory at least that he has grasped the fact that such profiteering is going on. He has also sound views on the freight-broker question and on the iniquity of the system, but he expresses the curious opinion that the Japanese Government cannot be aware of the practice or it would be prevented.

As an alternative scheme to a unit operating over 1,000 miles from Shanghai it might be advisable to consider the possibility of offering our Government the provision of 50 to 1,000 beds in Shanghai for the treatment of medical and surgical cases capable of transportation. There can be no doubt the facilities for treating patients are much greater here than elsewhere north of us in China. Our hospital accommodation, X-ray and bacteriological equipment, nursing facilities and co-operative possibilities among the medical men are all great advantages.

It would also be possible to make full use of the voluntary side element for nursing and give opportunities for personal service among the men and women of Shanghai in a very definite way.

The advantage to the patients themselves from a personal point of view of comfort and absence from the environment of war would be very great indeed as is the common experience in other parts of the world where our wounded require careful treatment. In combination with the latter scheme it might be possible to send a small unit of one or more medical men and several nurses from Shanghai to work in Siberia, either independently or in conjunction with some British unit from another part of China.

Speaking for my firm, the scheme for running a hospital or beds in Shanghai for cases sent from Siberia seems the most practical way we could give our assistance in our present state of short-handedness. This in combination with sharing the work of any medical man who could arrange temporarily to hand over his work to others while he served with a distant unit is about the limit of service possible to most of the British firms in Shanghai.

After some discussion the meeting decided that the British medical men in Shanghai offer their services to look after 50 beds for wounded or sick patients sent to Shanghai from the Siberian front.

The meeting also decided that it was advisable to wait for the communication from the Principal Medical Officer in charge of H. M. Forces in Vladivostok before making any final arrangements.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1918.

A SERIOUS SITUATION.

We have had frequent occasion during the past few months to comment on the dangerous tendencies exhibited by the so-called Government in Canton, and the news to hand yesterday to the effect that the general political outlook in China has been seriously compromised in consequence of developments in the South has not therefore caused us a great deal of surprise. From the stand which the Canton malcontents were taking it was inevitable that sooner or later they would come into conflict with the foreign Powers, and this is precisely what they now appear to have done. There have been a number of instances in which the Canton Government has acted in a manner quite at variance with international pledges. The most glaring instance of this type, until the latest turn in events, was the wrongful diversion of the Customs revenue which the Canton authorities had no right to touch but which they calmly appropriated to themselves, so great was their need of revenue. There were other acts, too, which were equally irregular, though in a smaller degree.

Now comes the crowning act of the piece in the announcement by the Canton Government that it intends within a few days to take over the Customs, to appoint two Chinese Directors and, if necessary, to use the Southern soldiery to enforce the resolve. With such a development as this, it is not surprising that the situation should be described as grave, for the contemplated step is a direct challenge not only to the Peking Government but also to the Powers who are very vitally and directly concerned with the administration of this great revenue earning Department. There are, as is well known, specific Treaty conditions to be observed in regard to the control of the Chinese Customs, and it is as much in China's own interests as in those of the foreign Powers concerned that these should be fully and honourably discharged. By its ill-advised step the Canton Government has committed a three-fold error. It has, in the first place, seriously prejudiced its own case, so far as recognition by the Powers is concerned; it has sown the seed of grave ironies in China generally; and it has brought itself into antagonism with foreign interests. While we can sympathise with the desire of the Southerners to get hold of revenue by rational means, the point appears to have been lost sight of by these Canton extremists that China has to be regarded as a whole by the Powers, and that a step of the kind under notice cannot be taken without affecting the country generally. Anything, therefore, which touches the credit of the nation must be regarded as unfortunate, especially if, as in this instance, it is likely to lead to serious friction between China and Powers who are now on friendly terms with her. That is the real gravity of the present situation. It is not a case merely of the Powers *vis à vis* the South; it is an issue between the Powers and China. Thus do the ill-considered actions of specific groups create troubles of a large character. The British as a people have been taught to think Imperially. Our urgent advice to the Chinese is to think nationally and not, as the North and South are doing, in terms of Provinces. The inter-Provincial and interneighbour strife which is so common in China is of small account if not prolonged, but this threatened action of the South to seize the Customs mace, if persisted in, inevitably lead to strong action by the Powers and less to interference of a far more drastic character than the Southerners appear to think.

The root cause of the present contretemps is, of course, the extreme difficulty which the Canton Government is experiencing in its search for revenue. It has tried many schemes, some of a most fanciful character, to "raise the wind" but has failed; hence its desire to seize upon the tempting Customs receipts. But, whatever the reason, the threatened step is wholly unjustified and cannot be defended from any standpoint whatever. The situation created, especially by the suggested use of force to carry through the resolution, is undoubtedly serious, and it is to be hoped that, for the sake of the preservation of harmony in the country, the Cantonese may yet see the error of their ways, repent before it is too late, and order their future doings on more sane and rational lines. In the present situation there is a great opportunity for the new President, who is said to favour a compromise with the South. He is a civilian, a Constitutional, and a man of wide experience. If he can prevent the threatened calamity, he will have begun his Presidential career in a most happy and inspiring fashion.

The Local V.A.D.

In view of the happenings on the Siberian Front and of the efforts which are being made in various Far Eastern settlements to render what assistance they can, it is reassuring to feel that we have in Hongkong a body of such distinct utility as the Ladies' V.A.D. This organisation has been in existence for some three years now, and to-day it has over forty efficient members who have passed the required tests and who are therefore able to render very valuable assistance in cases of emergency. Among the number are two lady doctors. Since the inception of the V.A.D. movement here, the members have taken up the work most enthusiastically and have entered into the training with much zest and keenness. At one time it looked as though their services would not be required through any developments of the war, but circumstances which have arisen since then which have put a very different complexion on the situation. That the inauguration of the movement was a wise one is therefore quite clear now. There may possibly be an impression in some quarters that these V.A.D. workers are not prepared for emergencies which may arise. That, however, is by no means the case; indeed, they are ready and anxious to do whatever is required of them, and if it so happens that their services are needed in the near future, their training will no doubt be of the utmost value.

There are also in Hongkong about 150 Chinese members of the men's detachments of the V.A.D., who are thoroughly well trained for local service and whose utility is equally obvious.

The American Red Cross.

It is not very long ago since the Hongkong Chapter of the American Red Cross was inaugurated, but even in this short time a considerable amount of good work has been done. Though it was hardly anticipated when the Chapter was formed a few months ago that the services of the members would be so actively required in consequence of the Siberian developments, yet this new contingency is being coped with in a spirit of optimism, with the result that large quantities of hospital requisites and other necessary things for the comfort of the wounded are being despatched rapidly to the Siberian front. The American Chapter has also had an eye on the lot of the unfortunate refugees who are fleeing from their homes. Already the plight of thousands of these is pitiable in the extreme. The majority of them are starving and inadequately clothed, with the prospect of a bitter winter before them. The American Chapter is therefore appealing to the generosity of Hongkong people to send along all the old clothes they can find. Most people have a good deal of lumber of this kind and no doubt this appeal will urge upon them the necessity of rooting it out and sending it with all speed to the headquarters of the American Chapter, which hopes to make up a tremendous bundle of clothing to despatch without delay to the distressed Siberians.

A Scrocher.

We have heard a number of complaints from various sources regarding some idiot of a motorist who makes the neighbourhood of Queen's Road hideous late at night with an infernal motor cycle. Whether he is a Chinese, an Indian, or a European does not appear to be known, but the fact remains that he is a distinct annoyance and commits a breach of the traffic regulations, which should give the Police the handle they require to haul him before the Magistrate for breaking the speed-limit. This man here apparently considers that in the daytime the traffic is too congested to permit of his going the whole hog, so he waits until darkness falls and then trots out one of the noisiest motor cycles to be found anywhere. Where he starts from nobody knows, but he screeches along Queen's Road Central at somewhere about forty or fifty miles an hour with his engine open and sounding his horn like a motorist gone mad. It would not be a bad idea if the Police made endeavours to catch this young man and let him understand that if he wants to create a noise for himself he must get out into the New Territories.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic results for the week ending 7th September, 1918.

	Receipts for week	Appropriation for week
This Year	\$15,599	493,271
Last Year	14,451	485,767
Interest	1,148	7,614
Dividends	1,000	3,000

DAY BY DAY.

STUDY TO MORTIFY THY VICES. FOR THIS WILL AVAIL THE MORE THAN THE BEING ABLE TO ANSWER MANY HARD QUESTIONS.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the fourth anniversary of the capture of German New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago by the Australians.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 7/16d.

Arrived Safely.

We hear that Mr. L. D. Warren (son of Mr. E. B. Warren) and Mr. J. Stalker, who left Hongkong to join up, in June, arrived safely in London on the 3rd inst.

Women Paglits.

Two Chinese women were charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, with fighting. Defendants pleaded guilty and said that they had a fight over a money affair.

His Worship bound them over in the sum of \$50 to keep the peace for six months.

Unlicensed Milk Vendor.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. B. Wood, this morning with being an unlicensed milk vendor. His Worship adjourned the case, fixing bail at \$20 and ordered that all bottles of milk that were found in defendant's possession should be sent to the Government Analyst.

His Excellency's Departure.

We understand that His Excellency the Governor and Lady May are leaving to-morrow for Canada in order to visit their daughter, Miss Dione May, who has recently had a rather severe illness. We are expressing the wishes of the whole community in hoping that they will find their daughter in a much improved state of health.

The Colony's Health.

The communicable diseases notified last week were four fatal cases of plague, four of spotted fever (three fatal), four of enteric (three fatal), and one fatal occurrence each of diphtheria and puerperal fever. All the sufferers were Chinese save one of the cases of enteric (English). For the foxy-eight hours ended yesterday there were two fatal cases of enteric (both Chinese).

The Commissioner of Customs.

Mr. A. H. Hurst, the Commissioner of Customs for the Kowloon District, is going on Home leave to-morrow and will carry with him the good wishes of many residents who have greatly admired his constant interest in the public life of the Colony. His place will be filled by Mr. T. D. Moorhead, former Commissioner at Lippu, who joined the Customs service in 1883 and is a son of a former Commissioner for Kowloon, Mr. R. B. Moorhead.

Wanton Bath.

A Chinese coal-coolie was charged this morning with being in unlawful possession of a basket of coal. Inspector Sim prosecuted and said that the coal was good household coal. Defendant said that the coal was the sweepingings from a ship and he brought it home for use in boiling water for his bath. Inspector Sim pointed out that the P.W.D. had a public bath house in Wan Chai and there was a lot of hot water there for those who wanted to bathe. His Worship fined the defendant \$5, or 14 days' hard labour.

Obstruction.

Several Chinese stall-holders were charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. R. Wood, with causing obstructions by putting their wares in the public roads. Defendants pleaded guilty. P. S. B. 23 said that he was on duty and as he was going his rounds he saw in various streets baskets of fruit, firewood, salt fish and other articles placed in the streets, thereby causing inconvenience to passers-by. His Worship imposed fines ranging from \$3 to \$10.

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic results for the week ending 7th September, 1918.

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PARTNERSHIP ISSUE.

A Supreme Court Trial.

The Chief Justice, Sir William Ross Davies, K.C.,

had before him this morning, in Original Jurisdiction an action in which two plaintiffs, Li Man-ki and the Wo Long Firm, sought to make one Chan U-man liable for debts of the Kwong Cheung Hing Firm.

Li Man-ki had secured a judgment for \$2,059 20 and the Wo Long for \$2,216 against the Kwong Cheung Hing, and both plaintiffs sued for a declaration that the man Chan U-man was a partner in the defendant firm when the indebtedness was incurred.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster (instructed by Mr. W. B. Hind) appeared for the defendants and Mr. F. C. Jenkins (instructed by Mr. D. J. Lewis, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) for the defendant.

Opening the case, Mr. Alabaster said:—This matter is a trial of issue as to whether the defendant, Chan U-man, was a partner in the Kwong Cheung Hing firm when the debts of the subject matters of these actions were proved. The Kwong Cheung Hing firm, which is the first defendant, was formed in 1913. It was promoted by a man named Hui Chik-wa, whom I am calling as a witness. He promoted the firm amongst his friends, with a capital of \$25,000. Of this sum the defendant contributed \$2,000. The money was handed to Hui Chik-wa at a Club of which both were members. Defendant asked that his name should be put down in the partnership books as a Tong name. The Tong name he chose was Chun U-tong, or Chun U-cho-tong, which is the same thing. Now, Chun U-cho-tong is the name outside the door of the defendant's residence in Canton. Also Chun U-tong is the name which the Telephone Directory of Canton has for the defendant. In 1916 Hui Chik-wa, who had hitherto been managing partner of the firm, desired to retire and a meeting of partners was held at a restaurant. The defendant was present at the meeting. It was then agreed that Hui Chik-wa should retire and his place as managing partner should be taken by an individual whom my friend will remember, Ku Ping-nam. He swore an affidavit in the Opium Case at the winding up, and he has now absconded. They passed two resolutions at the meeting and these were reduced to writing and signed by all the partners. And in order that each person present might have a duplicate original of that document it was photographed and so far as I know every partner has a photograph. Certainly Hui Chik-wa had one. During the time of Hui Chik-wa as managing partner he was defendant to the defendant the profits of his share of the firm. These payments were entered in a dividend book in which each partner signed. That book and other books of the firm disappeared when Ku Ping-nam absconded. Hui Chik-wa gave evidence to this effect.

Mr. Alabaster produced the photograph of the resolution passed with defendant's signature showing that he was a partner.

Mr. Jenkins objected that no

attempt had been made to account for the original document and therefore this secondary evidence could not be admitted.

His Lordship said it was an extraordinary procedure to photograph the resolution, when it was

as easy to make copies.

Mr. Jenkins said they would

probably come to the reason for the photograph presently.

For the moment he was objecting to the copy as evidence.

Mr. Alabaster said the photo-

graph was not a copy. It was a

"duplicate original."

It was the

Chinese way.

In any case, the

photograph was admissible.

His Lordship admitted the

photograph as secondary evi-

dence.

The witness went on to say

that the document had been

timbered with between the time

it was signed and the time

it was photographed.

In the

photograph it appeared from certain words used that the defen-

dant had not

been subpoenaed to

get him to produce it.

Witness admitted that this was

the original instrument to the

second instrument of writing from certain words used that the defen-

dant had not been subpoenaed to

get him to produce it.

Mr. Jenkins said the man who

had it not to be subpoenaed to

get him to produce it.

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TRAFFIC PROSECUTIONS.

Several Police Court Cases.

The chauffeur of motor car No. 61 was summoned before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with not having rear lights. Chief Inspector Sirdar Khan, H.K.P.R., prosecuted.

Defendant pleaded not guilty, and said that when he started the car the light was very good, but gradually on the way the light failed.

C. I. Sirdar Khan, in outlining the case, said that on the night in question he was standing near Causeway Bay, and he saw one motor-car coming with only one front light and a very dim rear light, so that he could not distinguish the number. He stopped the car and called the driver, who told him that he (defendant) had reported to his master about the lights, but he took no notice of the matter.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$10.

The driver of motor car No. 60 was summoned for failing to obey the directions of a Police Officer in uniform. Inspector Garrod prosecuted.

His Worship fined the defendant \$10.

The driver of motor car No. 52 was summoned for not having rear-lights. Inspector Garrod prosecuted, and His Worship fined the defendant \$10.

The driver of car No. 258 was summoned for failing to keep to the left side of the road.

Inspector Garrod prosecuted and Mr. H. S. Bennett, of the Telephone Co., appeared for the defendant, as the car was the Telephone Co.'s property.

Inspector Garrod said that he was in Queen's Road when he saw the truck being driven on the tram lines. He stopped it at the bottom of Garden Road, and explained the regulations in Chinese to the driver.

Mr. Bennett said it was a very conflicting case, as his men told him that no police officer stopped them. They had telephone poles on the cart and they had four men driving the cart.

Inspector Garrod remarked that as far as he knew there were no telephone poles.

His Worship remanded the case till next Tuesday at noon, so as to enable Mr. Bennett to make further inquiries into the matter.

Several Chinese truck-owners were summoned for committing various breaches of the Traffic Regulations, such as having no license, having too heavy a load, failing to keep to the left side of the road, driving trucks in prohibited streets, and leaving tracks unattended in the streets.

Inspector Garrod prosecuted in all of the cases, and His Worship imposed fines ranging from \$4 to \$15.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:

The Attack on Amoy.

Chen King-ming, the Commander-in-Chief in the east, has reported that the Northern troops in the vicinity of Amoy have shown no intention of fighting, and the fall of the city is imminent. It is reported that the rich merchants and well-to-do families are leaving the city in large numbers and that Li Hon-ki, Tsohon of Fukien, is also preparing to leave by sea.

Railway Damage.

The Superintendent of the Canton-Sunmen Railway, owing to the damage done by the recent fire to the permanent way, has used the monthly payments due to the Tsohon's office for repairing purposes, but on being strongly pressed by the Authority he has now borrowed a sum of \$100,000 from the Bank of Formosa and handed it to the Tsohon at the monthly interest rate of 7 per cent.

Gunboat in a Typhoon.

The commander of the gunboat Kwong Yink, which acted as a transport for Kingchow, has reported that the ship encountered a typhoon on the 1st inst. off Ting Chong. After all the coal had been consumed and the wooden furniture used for fuel, the ship was carried away by the wind for over 24 hours. Extensive damage was done to the ship and a big sum is necessary for her repair.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL.

Annual Meeting of the League.

President F. Medway, R.N., presided at the annual meeting of the Hongkong Football League last evening, held in the R.G.A. Recreation Room, Victoria Barracks. There was a large attendance of representatives present.

The balance sheet, which showed a credit balance of \$88, was adopted, as also was the annual report.

The following officers were chosen for the coming season:—President, Mr. R. J. Wilton; Vice-President, Lt. Jones, R.G.A.; League Management Committee, Master Gunner G. T. May, R.G.A.; Mr. Warne, R.N.; Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. Mitchell and the Rev. C. B. Shann; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. W. Wright.

Entries were received from Hongkong Club, R.G.A. and R.N. for the First Division, and Kowloon, Hongkong University, St. Joseph's (2 teams), Staff and Departments, 88th Co. R.G.A.; 87th Co. R.G.A.; 83rd Co. R.G.A. for the Second Division.

A proposal to alter Rule 8 of the League, bearing on the reinstatement of Junior League players, who had played in more than two or more Senior League matches was ruled out of order, sufficient notice not having been given. It was announced that the Rule was responsible for a lot of trouble in its working, and the question of revising it would be dealt with at a later meeting.

The question of including the South China Athletic in the First Division was raised, but the representative of the Club not being present, the meeting directed the new League Committee to ascertain the Club's intentions with a view to their inclusion in the Senior League if desirable.

Entries for both Divisions close on the 10th inst.

Votes of thanks to the retiring officers concluded the meeting.

Football Association Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Football Association followed, Lieutenant Medway still being in the chair.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, Lt. F. Medway, R.N.; Vice-President, Major T. Robertson A.O.D.; Major W. P. Hammond; Councillors: Mr. H. McTavish, Lt. A. E. Hall R.G.A., Mr. F. W. Black; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. W. Wright; Referees' Board: Major W. P. Hammond, Master Gunner G. T. May, R.G.A., the Hon. Secretary with Mr. F. W. Black as Hon. Secretary of the Board, and Mr. Mitchell.

In regard to "Charity" matches a vote of thanks was passed to the officials who gave their services in the past season, when over \$600 was collected at the matches played. The Association allow two Representative matches during the year, the whole of the proceeds being devoted to Charity, and it was decided that the first of these should take place on a convenient day in the early part of the season the proceeds being devoted to "Our Day" Funds.

The balance sheet, showing a balance of \$180, was unanimously passed.

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

War Comforts for Siberia.

Mrs. Sarah Gossler, Head of the Women's Work Party of the Hongkong Chapter of the American Red Cross, reports that the following supplies have been shipped by the S.S. China to Shanghai for transhipment to Siberia:—576 pillow slips, 188 handkerchiefs, 216 property bags, 105 pairs underdrawers, 130 pairs undershirts, 1 pair spiral socks, 3 pairs socks, 3 pairs bed socks, 9 mops, 46 surgical pillows, 18 medical bandages, 235 abdominal bandages, 240 facial bandages, 180 men's tail bandages, 305 triangular bandages, 235 T bandages, 1 sash, 84 suits pyjamas, 38 bed sheets, 15 bed jackets, 9 wash cloths, 24 taped shirts, 6 hand-angled foot socks.

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APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Acting Lecturer on Pharmacology—A course of 50 lectures is required to be delivered during the academic year 1918-1919 at 4.15 P.M. two or three afternoons a week. Full particulars may be obtained from the Dean to whom Applications should be made, as soon as possible.

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Acting Teacher of Operative Surgery. A practical course is required to be given during the Spring Term (January, March) 1919 at 8.30 A.M. on TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY. Full particulars may be obtained from the Dean, to whom applications should be made as soon as possible.

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"That the regulations contained in the printed document submitted to the meeting and for the purpose of identification, subscribed by the Chairman thereof be and the same are hereby approved and that such regulations be and they are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all the existing Articles thereof."

Should the above resolution be passed by the requisite majority it will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to a further Extraordinary General Meeting and such meeting will be held on Tuesday the 8th day of October, 1918, at the same time and place for the purpose of considering and if thought fit confirming such resolution as a Special Resolution accordingly.

Copies of the proposed new articles and of the present articles can be obtained at the offices of the Company or at the offices of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon and Harston.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Kanegafuchi Spinning Company. The half-yearly statement of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Co. shows a net profit for the six months of Y.9,350,000 as against a net capital of Y.17,427,660. A dividend was paid of 70 per cent, while two and a-half million yen were added to reserves, and large contributions made to the various funds for the benefit of the staff.

Hankow Imports. Electrical materials and fittings imported into Hankow during 1917 show an increase of Tls. 53,745 from the previous year. The total values for the two periods being (1916) Tls. 214,451 and (1917) Tls. 268,196. Machinery and parts show a decrease of Tls. 358,960 for the same period, the totals in this instance being (1916) Tls. 820,783 and (1917) Tls. 461,808.

Fostering Sugar Trade. A telegram from Washington records an arrangement whereby trade between the United States and the Dutch East Indies is to be fostered, particularly in sugar, of which the American War Board will take two million tons of the 1918 crop. It is understood that forty Dutch steamers, at present lying idle in ports of the Dutch East Indies, will be utilized to transport the sugar, also tobacco, rubber, copra, coffee, tin and quinine to America.

Increase in Nanking Metal Imports. During 1917 the import of iron and mild steel bars into Nanking showed an increase of 3,018 piculs on the previous year, the totals being (1916) 8,416 piculs and (1917) 11,433 piculs. Iron sheets and plates showed a decrease, for the same period of 114 piculs, the total in this instance being (1916) 361 piculs and (1917) 247 piculs.

Oil Prospecting. The Standard Oil Co. having relinquished the conception it held for prospecting in the provinces of Yenan and Shensi, the Japan-China Industrial Co. has obtained from the Chinese Government permission to prospect for oil in different parts of China. The Standard Oil Co. was to finance the deal and later was to have received a certain proportion of the money expended. After exhaustive tests it was decided that the indications were not of sufficient promise to continue the work and the drilling staff were disbanded. The amount spent in experiments exceeded £1,000,000.

Industrial Enterprises of Tsingtao.

Among the principal industrial enterprises lately established at Tsingtao are the following:—The Tsingtao Spinning Mill of the Naigai Cotton Spinning Company, the Tsingtao Branch Brewery of the Dai Nippon Brewery Company, the Tsingtao Flour Mill Company, the Tsingtao Salt Manufacturing Company, the Okura Gumi Flour Mill, the Iwaki Shokai Brick Yard, the Tsingtao Canning Company, the Suzuki Slik Filature, the Tsingtao Branch of the Dairen Ice Company, the Yamaguchi Shokai Canning Factory, the Shinsho Yoko Sop and Oil Department, the Tokusei Yoko Tannery, the Mukai Chemical Works, the Bosai Koshi Iron Works, the Kyuhyaku Iron Works, the Tairi Shokai Manufactory, the Tosa Oil Mill, the Akashi Mabu Manufactory, the Mitoi Oil Mill, the Taihei Yoko Albumen Factory, the Y. Yamamoto Chemical Industry Company, the Shantung Development Company, the Tsingtao Match Manufacturing Company, the Oriental Oil Manufacturing Company and others. The Administration has adopted a systematic scheme of encouragement. Land has been leased out to factory owners at very low rents, while for a fixed period of time, owners of factories are exempted from all taxes. Electric power is supplied by the S. P. E. S. (S. P. E. S.) has been established. The committee of this syndicate, consisting of 15 members, will have its head office in Geneva. The meeting which was presided over by the president of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, and was attended by commercial men from all parts of Switzerland and representatives of the Chambers of Geneva, Basel, and Zurich. The object of the S. P. E. S. is to promote the exportation of Swiss products. The association, as such, has no pecuniary aim. As owner of the mark "S. P. E. S." indicating Swiss origin, it will give its members the right to use this mark for goods the products of the Swiss soil and of Swiss industry, and for goods which have undergone in Switzerland such manipulation as to confer on them a new character. Membership of the S. P. E. S. is confined to native-born Swiss citizens, and to those who have been naturalized for at least 10 years.

T. T. Five Shillings.

The rate of exchange T. T. yesterday reached the official figure of 5/- for the first time since 1890. It is a figure on which many an eye has been set for considerable time past, though it came somewhat unexpectedly at the last with a jump of 2/- from the rate of 4/10 on Thursday. This latter rate had been maintained since August 9, when there had been an advance from the previous day of 4/9. This last rate, or rather 4/9, had with some exceptions been maintained for some time previously, practically throughout July, while the highest in June was on June 28 when 4/8 was reached. This marks a rise in the year of 9/-, the lowest rate being 4/2 from

January 23-25, so that though the rate has shown a little coyse about the 5/- mark it really has done quite well over the year.

The last time the rate was 5/- or over was in September, 1890, when on the fourth of that month it reached 5/3. For the next 13 years it gradually declined in value until on January 23 and 24, 1903, it touched low water mark at 2/1/2, since when it has recovered ground, slowly at first, but more rapidly during the last two years of the war. In 1916 the highest T. T. rate was 3/6; in 1917, 4/4; and to-day's rate brings it to the highest level in 28 years all but a fortnight.

A Swiss Trade-Mark. An article in a recent issue of the "Journal de Génerale" describes the steps which are being taken in Switzerland to prepare against the danger of attempts being made to pass off German goods as goods of Swiss origin. This effort takes the form of the institution of a national Swiss trade-mark to distinguish manufacturers of Swiss origin from those of foreign origin, and, to quote the "Journal," this effort is likely to be attended by consequences of the highest importance to the industrial and commercial credit of Switzerland.

After three years of close examination of this question, observes the "Journal," a scheme, promoted by the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, has been adopted by a general meeting, and a Syndicate for Exportation Suisse (S. P. E. S.) has been established. The committee of this syndicate, consisting of 15 members, will have its head office in Geneva. The meeting which was presided over by the president of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, and was attended by commercial men from all parts of Switzerland and

representatives of the Chambers of Geneva, Basel, and Zurich. The object of the S. P. E. S. is to promote the exportation of Swiss products. The association, as such, has no pecuniary aim. As owner of the mark "S. P. E. S." indicating Swiss origin, it will give its members the right to use this mark for goods the products of the Swiss soil and of Swiss industry, and for goods which have undergone in Switzerland such manipulation as to confer on them a new character.

Membership of the S. P. E. S. is confined to native-born Swiss citizens, and to those who have been naturalized for at least 10 years.

WOMEN'S WAR WORK.

Valuable Services in Shipyards.

When it is realized that the building of big merchant steamers is admittedly one of the hardest and roughest occupations in any branch of industrial work, the introduction of women labour into the shipyards must be regarded as one of the most remarkable developments brought about by the war in the field of woman's work, says the "Journal of Commerce."

To-day women are to be found among the riveters, taking the place of boys in the heating and conveying of the rivets to the men who drive them home. They are working in blacksmith's forces; in the lead iron work and do certain portions of the paint-work. All over a shipyard they may be seen tidying up, shifting scrap iron, carrying bulks of timber, pieces of angle iron, and iron bars. Girls unpack the huge cases of machine parts and gear, and frequently do the more arduous work of unloading bars of iron from railway wagons. At the latter job many of them are adepts, and the speed with which they shift the loads and wheel them away in barrows or bogeys is really remarkable. The wages which women receive for all these and many other forms of labour in which men alone used to be employed are double what the men used to be paid in pre-war days.

A more valuable part of their work, perhaps, is done with machinery. Their work in the joiners' shops is particularly valuable in all the various items treated, especially with the planing machines, with which female workers produce a noticeably large output.

In the engineers' section of the shipyard also—outside of the marine engine works altogether, of course—women are much in demand. They work various kinds of machines, such as screwing and boring machines; they face-up flanges, oil and clean all machines, sharpen tools and in many other ways help on this department in every shipyard. All this work is performed smartly and deftly with excellent results.

But women do even more difficult and responsible work than this. Experienced girls are very skilful in the manipulation of such powerful machines as those used for cutting angles and for steel-bending. They even drive electric cranes and winches,

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